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January 25, 2006

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: PBT Telecom, Inc. Alternative Regulation Plan Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576
Docket No. 2006-34-C

Dear Mr. Terreni:

We received via email from the Commission's Docketing Department yesterday afternoon a Notice of Filing, with instructions to publish the notice, regarding the above-referenced matter. A copy of the notice is attached.

We believe the attached notice is inappropriate for use in this matter, as it could potentially confuse members of the public. As PBT's filing in this docket demonstrates, PBT has met the statutory requirement of S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(A)(1), because the Commission has approved a local interconnection agreement in which PBT is a participant with an unaffiliated entity. Having met this requirement, PBT provided notice of its election of an alternative regulation plan pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B). This is essentially a notice filing, with the plan becoming effective on February 18, 2006, as provided for by statute.

We believe the notice is confusing in that it suggests to the public that this matter is broader than it actually is, and that they may have an opportunity to participate in an administrative evidentiary proceeding to address the matter, which has already been resolved by statute as a matter of law.

PBT has no problem with providing appropriate notice to members of the public of its election to be regulated pursuant to the plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B). However, we believe that the South Carolina General Assembly has clearly stated that companies who face competition in their local markets are entitled to elect the alternative regulation plan described in the statute. We believe, therefore, that any public notice that may be required should accurately reflect the statutory context of PBT's election of the plan.

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni
January 25, 2006
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We respectfully request that the Commission reconsider the notice requirement for this filing. We suggest that the Docketing Department substantially streamline the notice, either for publication or for distribution through the Commission's subscription service. Along those lines, we have attached a draft proposed notice that may be used for these purposes.

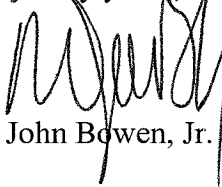
Please understand that PBT is by no means trying to avoid providing notice to the public of its election of an alternative regulation plan. PBT only wishes to avoid confusing the public through publication of a potentially misleading notice. The plan elected by PBT will benefit consumers because it will allow PBT to be more responsive to competition. Additionally, because PBT's rates for basic local exchange service are equal to the statewide average rates, this filing will not result in a basic local rate increase. Instead, under the Plan, PBT will immediately freeze its basic local exchange telephone rates for a period of two (2) years, and thereafter will raise those rates only according to an inflation-based index.

Please let us know as soon as possible if the notice requirement will be modified. We are currently under instructions to publish not later than February 2, 2006, and will need to proceed with publication if not otherwise directed by close of business on Monday, January 30, 2006.

Please clock in a copy of this filing and return it with our courier.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



M. John Bowen, Jr.

Enclosures

cc: C. Dukes Scott, Esquire
L. B. Spearman

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF FILING

DOCKET NO. 2006-34-C

RECEIVED
2006 JAN 25 PM
SC PUBLIC
SERVICE
COMMISSION

PBT Telecom, Inc. ("PBT") has filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") a request to have its rates, terms and conditions determined pursuant to the plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B). Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(A), any local exchange carrier ("LEC") may elect to have the rates, terms and conditions of its services determined pursuant to the alternative regulation plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B), provided the Commission has approved a local interconnection agreement in which the LEC is a participant with an entity determined by the Commission not to be affiliated with the LEC. The Commission has approved such an agreement on January 18, 2006 between PBT and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC ("MCI"). PBT elects to have its rates, terms, and conditions determined pursuant to the Plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) as set forth in its Alternative Regulation Plan, effective date February 18, 2006.

A copy of the Application is on file in the offices of the Commission, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, the Commission's web site at www.psc.sc.gov, and is available from Margaret M. Fox, Esquire, Post Office Box 11390, Columbia, South Carolina 29211.

A public hearing, if scheduled, will be held in Columbia, South Carolina in the offices of the Commission at the above address, for the purpose of receiving testimony and other evidence from all interested parties regarding this Application. The time and date of this hearing will be furnished to all interested parties at a later date.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **February 24, 2006** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2006-34-C.***

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing, if scheduled, should notify the Docketing Department in writing at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff at Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, and Margaret M. Fox, Esquire, at the above address, on or before **February 24, 2006** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2006-34-C.***

Any person who wishes to be notified of the hearing, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before **February 24, 2006**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2006-34-C.***

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attn: Docketing Department
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

PBT PROPOSED

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF FILING

DOCKET NO. 2006-34-C

PBT Telecom, Inc. ("PBT") has filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") a request to have its rates, terms and conditions determined pursuant to the plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B). Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(A), any local exchange carrier ("LEC") may elect to have the rates, terms and conditions of its services determined pursuant to the alternative regulation plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B), provided the Commission has approved a local interconnection agreement in which the LEC is a participant with an entity determined by the Commission not to be affiliated with the LEC. The Commission has approved such an agreement on January 18, 2006 between PBT and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC ("MCI"). PBT elects to have its rates, terms, and conditions determined pursuant to the Plan described in S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) as set forth in its Alternative Regulation Plan, effective date February 18, 2006.

A copy of the Application is on file in the offices of the Commission, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, the Commission's web site at www.psc.sc.gov, and is available from Margaret M. Fox, Esquire, Post Office Box 11390, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. Interested persons may contact the Commission or counsel for PBT for additional information concerning the Plan. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2006-34-C.***

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Attn: Docketing Department
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211